

**ARTIST,  
SHANE TOWNLEY  
B. 1972**

NEW YORK, NY



scan QR: [shanetownley.com](http://shanetownley.com)  
(open your photo app, hover over, click URL)

**the Studio**

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## Solo Exhibition in TriBeCa, New York



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Thursday, March 4, 2020 (6-9PM)





# The Climate Change Series

## 2004 - 2020



Global Warming Series  
"Climate Change is Real" acrylic 20x30 - \$12,000



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Global Warming Series  
"Ghost" oils 36x48 2017 - offered on Artnet - \$12,000







Global Warming Series  
"Acid Rain" oils 24x36 2015 - \$12,000





Global Warming Series  
"Gems" mixed media 48x12 2017 offered at  
Laguna Art Gallery - \$7500



Global Warming Series  
"Clouded" oils 48x12 2017 offered  
at Gallery104 - \$7500







Global Warming Series  
"Paterns" oils and bubble wrap 36x48 2017 \$20,000





Global Warming Series  
"rubber" wax on wood panel 18x18 2018 \$5000 available at  
Gallery104

Global Warming Series  
2018 "Open Ended" wax on wood panel  
16x16 - \$2500



2018 Global Warming Series  
"zero" wax on wood panel 10x10 2018 \$5000 offered at Gallery104





Global Warming Series  
"field" oils 30x40 2017 - \$11,000





Global Warming Series  
The Path 60"X60" Oils - \$35,000







"As the day is long" 72"X48" Oil on Canvas 2019 - \$50,000





"One" 30X40 Oil on canvas, 2017 - \$20,000







"Feather" 60"X96" Oil on canvas, Signed 2020 - \$50,000







"Oil and Water", Mixed Media on Canvas 60"X90" - \$50,000



Solo Exhibition, New York, NY





## "A New Surrealism" by Shane Townley

The art work of Shane Townley is not what it seems. Or, it is exactly what it seems. Sly, these paintings are a mix of riddles and unanswered questions. Is it a simple landscape? Or, is it a careful prompt to larger questions and understandings about our surroundings and global warming?

A simple glance is all it takes to count the elements that comprise much of Townley's work: a calm sky, a peaceful expanse, a line of trees not too far in the distance. Sometimes he shows us a road or path, some times not. The colors are soothing but dripping with emotion and paint. The composition is familiar, peaceful in its predictability. But there is more here, much more and like the "kitchen" poems of the late Jane Kenyon and Updike's urban wastelands, Townley's peaceful mindscapes are anything but peaceful. The opening sequence of David Lynch's, "Blue Velvet," features a long slow zoom into a classic American exterior.

Crisp, clean, comfortable it embodies a storybook that is as much of a part of American mythology as is the dream that all men are created equal. Lynch, like Townley, toys with us. Because as we get closer the camera takes us from benign detachment into the top few layers of soil beneath the perfectly manicured lawn and it is here that we see a teeming hoard of writhing violent murderous insect life. In Lynch's and Townley's shared vision, the peaceful is not the truth. The peaceful is the myth, the mask that disguises the truth. A difficult disturbing truth we all share.

In Townley's exquisite work we know there is chaos beneath surface. The expanse of land that takes us to the trees is false hope, unrealistic expectations that distract us from the pain and difficulty of the lives that are symbolized in that long slow walk. But it is the trees that are most telling: arranged in a synchrony of balanced meditation, they are a mirage. An idealized endpoint to life's challenging frontier. Is there an other side? Is it as simple as stepping comfortably through the gaps between the verdant actors? No, endings are painful, ruinous. And the journey to the other side is never what we expect or dream or hope it to be.

It is this inherent deception that pushes Townley into a touch of surrealism. He presents the fantastic clothed in the realistic. This surrealism is subtle and idyllic. Shane Townley is an artist that asks us to think about what we don't see. Think about the earth and our destructive path, It is here that he excels. Because by giving us what we think we want, he forces us to see what is really there.

## Biography

Born in 1972 in Ithaca, NY the oldest of 3 siblings, by parents Michelle and Don Townley. His father sold medical equipment and moved the family all over the country until finally settling in Orange County California. When his father left the family abruptly and ended up in Mexico on a drug bender, Michelle their mother was forced to enter the work place. Shane and his 2 younger brothers were left home to fend for themselves sometimes fighting over a loaf of bread.

Shane changed his name from his original birth name at the age of 12 because his artist signature was a better design as "Shane", he sold his first painting at the age of 14 from his mother's garage to a local of San Clemente, CA. After high school Townley studied art and design and graduated from Platt College of art and design in California in 1994. Soon after school Townley headed for upstate New York to connect with the extended family he left behind as a child. He began to work for various company's and newspapers as a graphic designer by day and promoted night clubs by night. When Townley was robbed at gunpoint after promoting a club one evening he left the next day for California driving across the country by car. Without realizing it until later this is where his landscape series of Global Warming was born, constantly watching the horizon and changing landscapes of the country through his journey.

In 2004 Townley opened an art gallery in San Clemente, CA and promoted his own work as well as other various local artists. Townley's work consisted of tropical and beach scenes which later took form into his landscape series. In 2009 Townley opened Townley gallery in Laguna Beach, CA where he met his future wife and they married in 2010. They moved to Manhattan New York in 2015 and Townley set out to create an art center which was completed finally in the beginning of 2019. The search for the perfect space to hold a massive art fair monthly took nearly 4 years to find. The art center was situated perfectly in Tribeca on Broadway between White and Franklin Streets with 15,000 sq ft, 3 levels and and a cafe. A shiny gold sculpture of crowns was placed near the entrance on the alley of Franklin Place by a local artist which ironically became the Grand Opening logo. Townley and his team exhibited over 100 artists per month through 2019. In the beginning of 2020 the cafe expanded into more space on Broadway as did the exhibition spaces' footprint.

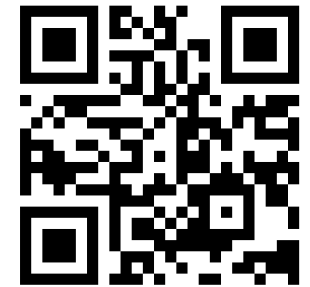
In 2017 Townley and his wife took a trip to Tulum, Mexico for some R&R. After the trip his wife flew back to New York and Townley stayed back to meet with some business partners. While in Tulum Townley created a masterpiece entitled, "Its a national emergency" created in 2017, the painting was a vision and a foresight of what was about to come, as we all know the United States was declared a national emergency in 2020 due to COVID-19.



IN 2019 when the art center was finally about to expand into the largest of space of 15,000 sq ft and with Over 12,000 collectors from all over the world attended the 15 monthly exhibitions until COVID-19 struck Manhattan like a freight train. The art center and cafe closed as quickly as it opened however the short lived exhibition space was a magical place where many celebrities and artists connected with collectors and supporters of the arts of all walks of life for the 15 months it was open. It wasn't until well after the summer of 2020 when collectors realized Townley's art work specifically dated between 2015 and 2020 had the most foresight of what was to come in 2020. Townley's most recent exhibition in March of 2020 was a dark black abstract series in which he painted an angel and a demon on the studio walls and the 15 paintings completed from this series were the darkest series Townley has ever created, with different tones of black and a lot of texture on linen. It's no wonder that Townley saw what was coming.

With his creations and exhibitions from 2004 - 2020, his works are housed in a fine art storage facility in California and New York and offered through various galleries and direct from the studio. Please contact the studio for a virtual viewing of the latest works available for purchase.





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